## **NEWS RELEASE**

## Health Commissioner Dr. Gale Burstein

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CONTACT: JoAnne Paxon/ JoAnne.Paxon@erie.gov Phone: (716)858-4941/ Mobile: (716) 364-3028

## "Be Active Erie County" Guided Walks in Erie County Parks

## *Program encourages fun and fitness*

ERIE COUNTY, NY— Erie County Health Commissioner Dr. Gale Burstein announced that Erie County Department of Health ("ECDOH") is again sponsoring with the Wellness Institute of Greater Buffalo "Be Active Erie County!" a series of guided walks for all ages in our beautiful Erie County parks.

"Regular physical activity helps people get and keep a healthy weight," said Burstein. "Adults need at least 2 and 1/2 hours (150 minutes) a week of aerobic physical activity. Inactive adults have higher risk for early death, heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, depression, and some cancers."

The "Be Active Erie County!" walks for this year are:

May 18, 2013	Saturday, Emery Park, Field House
June 2, 2013	Sunday, Towpath Park (Foot of Hertel Avenue),
June 8, 2013	Saturday, Isleview Park, Gazebo,
June 15, 2013	Saturday, Akron Falls Park, Cummings Lodge
June 22, 2013	Saturday, Chestnut Ridge Park, Casino

The Erie County Sheriff's Office Mounted Reserve unit will lead the walks. Health screening including blood pressure, BMI and others will be available. Assorted health education materials and smoking cessation services, products, and cessation program enrollment will be available at each walk. Registration for the walks begins at 9 am.

For information on the "Be Active Erie County!" and other programs visit:

http://www2.erie.gov/health/